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**From:** Melvin, Karen [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B65F9758D726421185D69F59824F8DEE-KMELVIN]  
**Sent:** 10/5/2020 11:52:41 AM  
**To:** Joan Armstrong [Armstrong.Joan@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: RA events calendar and agency-wide messaging

**KAREN MELVIN, DIRECTOR  
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**From:** Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 04, 2020 4:44 PM  
**To:** R3 DIRECTORS <R3\_DIRECTORS@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RA events calendar and agency-wide messaging

Directors,

RA events calendar attached and agency-wide messaging below.

**DRAFT-DELIBERATIVE / CONTENT SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**MESSAGE OF THE WEEK: NPL DELETIONS & CHILDREN'S HEALTH MONTH**

- Under President Trump's leadership, EPA has deleted all or part of 82 sites from the National Priorities List (NPL), accomplishing in one term the same number of deletions as two full terms of the previous administration.
- The NPL represents the sites with the worst contamination in the nation, but it also represents sites that are priorities for cleanup. Our job is not done until a site is deleted.
- This administration has prioritized Superfund site deletions. After years of little to no action, EPA is finishing the job and delivering results to communities.
  - In FY16, there were only 3 deletions; but by FY19, this administration increased that number by 800% to 27, the largest number in a single year since 2001.
  - This past year, in FY 2020, EPA continued to achieve a historically high rate, with a total of 27 full or partial deletions.
- While the cleanup work on Superfund sites spans administrations, the Trump Administration is prioritizing both cleanup progress and cleanup completion.
- Deletion from the NPL is an important milestone because it allows a site to be eligible for Brownfields grants, and it signals to potential developers and financial institutions that cleanup is complete and the risks once present at the site no longer pose a risk to human health and the environment, paving the way for investment in the redevelopment of these properties and turning them into community assets.
- Superfund sites disproportionately affect minority and low-income communities, and in too many cases, progress has slowed, leaving these communities in limbo as they wait for the slow-moving bureaucracy to take action.
- The ultimate measure and goal of the Superfund program is how well the affected communities we serve are transformed by reclaiming and returning land to productive use.

### *Children's Health Month*

- As part of its 50th anniversary celebration, EPA is kicking off a month-long celebration of environmental achievements that have improved children's health in the United States.
- Celebrated each year in October, Children's Health Month serves as a national month of recognition of the accomplishments and challenges our nation faces to improve the health of all children.
- Today, our environment is cleaner than any point in our nation's recorded history, leading to positive environmental health outcomes in communities across the nation. Over the past four years, EPA has made significant strides in protecting children's health, including:
  - Providing funding to support testing for lead in drinking water in schools.
  - Declining emissions of criteria and precursor air pollutants, dropping 7% from 2017 to 2019, for a total of 77% since the inception of the EPA in 1970.
  - Remediating and revitalizing community spaces through the Brownfields program, including the Children's Museum of Maine, neighborhoods and playgrounds in Colorado, and more.
- Throughout October, EPA will celebrate children's health by highlighting a new theme each week: Children's Environmental Health in Schools, Childcare Settings, and Houses of Worship; Children's Health Research; Improving Safety of School and Childcare Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic; and National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week.

### *Coronavirus Response*

- EPA continues to take action to ensure that Americans can disinfect public spaces effectively and efficiently to control SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19.
- EPA has released new guidance that outlines how the agency will expedite the review of requests to add electrostatic sprayer application directions to the labels of disinfectant products for use against SARS-CoV-2.
- Electrostatic sprayer application is an effective way to disinfect large indoor spaces.
- EPA's new guidance, which was developed with the CDC, provides step-by-step instructions for public spaces, workplaces, businesses, schools and homes.
- EPA has compiled a [list of disinfectant](#) products, including ready-to-use sprays, concentrates, and wipes, that can be used against COVID-19.
- When using these products, always follow the directions and safety information on the label. A disinfectant product's safety and effectiveness may change based on how it is used.

### HQ PRESS RELEASES

#### *Monday, October 5*

- Children's Health Day (All regions amplify)
- NPL Deletions HQ (Separate regional releases)
- National Recycling Strategy (All regions amplify)
- Water Workforce Initiative Plan
- Vessel Incidental Discharge Act of 2018 Proposed Rule

#### *Tuesday, October 6*

- SAB Chair / Vice Chair
- EPA Awards Competitive Grant to ITEP / Tribal pesticide grant (Region 6 & 9 amplify)
- Adding Chitosan to the List of Active Ingredients Permitted in Exempted Minimum Risk Pesticides Products
- Indoor airPlus Leader Awards (Regions 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10 amplify)
- Tuesday wrap-up release for Administrator Travel

#### *Wednesday, October 7*

- Dermal Waiver Draft Guidance
- Wastewater COVID Monitoring
- Great Lakes Announcement on Black River AOC (Region 5 amplify)
- Wednesday wrap-up release for Administrator Travel

#### *Thursday, October 8*

- Memphis WIFIA Loan Closing (Region 4 amplify)

- Thursday wrap-up release for Administrator Travel

*Friday, October 9*

- WaterSense Partners of the Year

*TBD*

- Phosphogypsum
- Volatile Organic Liquid Storage Tanks NSPS NPRM
- Residual Long-Lasting Efficacy Framework

#### SR. LEADER INTERVIEWS

- 10/5: Interview with Ron Selak of the Tribune Chronicle (Administrator Wheeler)
- 10/6: The Jeff Oravits Show, Flagstaff, AZ (Doug Benevento)
- 10/7: Great Lakes Press Conference (Administrator Wheeler)
- 10/7: The Gallo Radio Show by SuperTalk Mississippi (Mandy Gunasekara)

#### AW SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- 10/5: Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC) 2020

#### SOCIAL MEDIA\*

<i><b>Monday</b></i>	<i><b>Tuesday</b></i>	<i><b>Wednesday</b></i>	<i><b>Thursday</b></i>	<i><b>Friday</b></i>	<i><b>Saturday</b></i>	<i><b>Sunday</b></i>
EPA at 50 / Children's Health Month	Ohio Tribal grant	Pennsylvania Great Lakes	Memphis WIFIA			

NPL Deletions

Nat'l  
Recycling  
Strategy

\*Posts on flagship EPA and Administrator Wheeler accounts (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Linked In, You Tube)  
*Programs and Regions are encouraged to share as applicable to your audiences. (T) = tentative.*

#### SHARABLE DIGITAL CONTENT

*Download from the Digital Resource Library on the [OPA Information Hub](#)*

- NPL Deletions, Children's Health Month, National Recycling Strategy

#### REGIONAL PRESS RELEASES, EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 10/4: EJ Collaborative Problem Solving Cooperative Agreement press release (R8)
- 10/5: Pesticide Warehouse 1 Superfund Site Issue Record of Decision (R2)
- 10/5: GCL Superfund Site Record of Decision (R2)
- 10/5: University of Puerto Rico Diesel Emissions Reduction Act grant (R2)
- 10/5: EPA Reviewing Florida's Request to Assume the Clean Water Act 404 Program (R4)
- 10/5: EPA Releases Story Map Tool for the Proctor Creek Watershed (R4)
- 10/5 or 6: CAA Settlement with Scrap Metal company, Johnston RI (R1)
- 10/5 or 6: Annual Air Quality Action Seasonal Wrap up PR (R1)
- 10/6: NM Dept of Energy Minerals and Natural Resources UIC grant for \$253,411 (R6)
- 10/6: Anaconda partial CD announcement press release. (R8)
- 10/6: Roadrunner trucks/buses ENF, SoCal (R9)
- 10/6: Amplify ITEP pesticide cooperative agreement, AZ (R9)
- 10/7: COVID-19 FIFRA Enforcement (R2)
- 10/7: Smart Sectors Events – Concrete/Aggregates Sector and Urban Ag (3rd-year anniversary) (AO/R3)
- 10/7: City of Memphis WIFIA Loan Closing (R4)

- 10/7: Louisiana Department of Health grant for Chloroprene exposure (R6)
- 10/8: RA walking tour Woonsocket RI (Smart Sectors) – press coverage anticipated (R1)
- 10/8: Superfund Deletion Peter Cooper Superfund Site (R2)
- 10/8: Erie Redevelopment OZ Tour, International Recycling Group roundtable, Meadville Ag Tour, Greenville Brownfields Tour (AO/R3)
- 10/8: Cimarron Mining, NM NPL delisting (R6)
- 10/8: Tulsa Fuel, OK NPL delisting (R6)
- 10/9: Region 4 Trash Free Water Op-Ed Featuring the Freshwater Land Trust (R4)
- 10/9: RA press event to announce deletion of Scrap Processing Superfund Site; highlight deletion stats, Medford, Wis. (R5)
- TBD: FIFRA Settlement Chemco Co. Lawrence MA (R1)
- TBD: DERA amplification (waiting for all R1 grants to be finalized) (R1)
- TBD: PR etc. Partial NPL deletion, Woburn MA (R1)
- TBD: Childrens Health Month (R1)
- TBD: Environmental Education grants (R2)
- TBD: Kronospan, LLC, Eastaboga, Ala to pay a civil penalty of \$900,000 and install an evaporation system for violations of the Clean Water Act (R4)
- TBD: EPA Announces Environmental Education Grant to Emory University (R4)
- TBD: EPA Announces Environmental Education Grant to Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (R4)
- TBD: EPA Announces Environmental Education Grant to the Kentucky Association of Environmental Education (R4)
- TBD: EPA Announces Environmental Education Grant to EcoRise Youth Innovations (R4)
- TBD: Work completed at Midco Superfund Site, Ind. (R5)
- TBD: Superfund removal work completed at Tremont Field site, Cleveland (R5)
- TBD: \$40,000 grant to Environmental Education Alliance of Illinois (R5)
- TBD: \$100,000 Enviro Ed grant to University of Wisconsin-Madison (R5)
- TBD: \$100,000 Enviro Ed grant to Central Michigan University and Trout Unlimited (R5)
- TBD: \$100,000 Environ Ed grant to Neighborhood House of Milwaukee (R5)
- TBD: P2 Grant Interviews with RA (R7)
- TBD: Watersense partner of the year awards press release. (R8)
- TBD: BC Systems ENF case, SoCal and AZ (R9)
- TBD: Par East hazardous waste ENF case, HI (R9)
- TBD: Safety Kleen settlement, SoCal (R9)
- TBD: Safeway Ice Cream ENF case, AS (R9)
- TBD: Amplify Superfund NPL deletion- JASCO (R9)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS OR PROJECTS

- November: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Theme (Ensuring Environmental Compliance, Lead: OECA)

#### COMMUNICATIONS RESOURCES

- AP Stylebook (public affairs staff writing for media): <https://www.apstylebook.com/epa/>
- EPA Stylebook (i.e. Agency Branding): <https://www.epa.gov/stylebook>
- OPA Information Hub: [https://usepa.sharepoint.com/sites/OA\\_OPA\\_HQ](https://usepa.sharepoint.com/sites/OA_OPA_HQ)

Chad Nitsch

Director, Office of Public Affairs

US Environmental Protection Agency – Region 3 (Mid-Atlantic: WV, VA, PA, MD, DE, DC, and 7 federally recognized tribes)

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